

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of:

MICHAEL J. BAUHOFF

CASE NO.: AD 6792 US NA

APPLICATION NO.: 10/085,846

GROUP ART UNIT: 1775

FILED: FEBRUARY 27, 2002

EXAMINER: UNKNOWN

FOR: INTEGRAL STRUCTURES OF METAL AND
LASTIC WITH FASTENING MEANS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Before examination of the above-referenced application,
please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 4, line 29, delete "10".

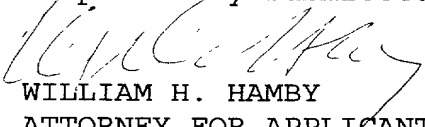
Page 5, line 32, delete "10"

REMARKS

It is respectfully requested that the amendments above be
entered before examination of the application. These changes
are made for consistency with the drawings transmitted
currently herewith under separate paper.

In view of the foregoing, allowance of the above-
referenced application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


WILLIAM H. HAMBY
ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANTS
REGISTRATION NO. 31,521
TELEPHONE: (302) 992-3230
FACSIMILE: (302) 992-3257

Dated:  15 2002

2002590" 94258001

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In showing the changes, deleted material is shown as bracketed., and inserted material is shown underlined..

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 4, line 29:

Having reference to Figure 1, there is shown generally an integral structure [10] of metal with molded plastic. In this illustration the main member 1 and the support members 3 of the structural component are metal. The support members 3 attach to (or are a part of) the main member 1 and (as shown) extend generally perpendicular to the main member 1, in effect forming "side walls". Ribs 4 formed from plastic as shown connect the support members 3 to each other and provide additional rigidity to the integral structure as warranted. One skilled in the art will selectively introduce the ribs 4 as one of many possible approaches to providing a more rigid assembly. Rib supports 5 are positioned between the ribs 4 and the support members 3. Moreover, the rib supports 5 connect with lip 6 which serves to lock the ribs 4 with the main member 1. These rib supports 5 and lip 6 are made of plastic.

Page 5, line 32.

There are no restrictions on the exact configuration of the head assembly including head portion 8 and stem portion 9, so long as an undercut or equivalent design feature is represented in the assembly. Multiple undercuts may be present on head assemblies. One skilled in the art will select a suitable design to conform to the dimensional constraints of the integral structure [10] and at the same time meet the functional specifications required of the structure itself.

Application No.: 10/085,846
Docket No.: AD 6792 US NA

Page 3

20250708 10:08:46